UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/49/L.13
3 November 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 98

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

Bahamas, Cuba, Mexico, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

International action to combat drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/97 of 16 December 1992, 48/12 of 28 October 1993 and 48/112 of 20 December 1993,

Profoundly alarmed by the magnitude of the rising trend in drug abuse, illicit production and trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances that threaten the health and well-being of millions of persons, in particular the youth, in all countries of the world,

Gravely concerned that the illicit demand for, production of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems and the stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States,

Deeply alarmed by the growing violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups that engage in the production, traffic and distribution of drugs, arms and precursor and essential chemicals, which at times places them beyond the reach of the law, corrupting institutions and threatening the stability of many societies in the world,

Fully aware that States, the relevant agencies of the United Nations system and multilateral development banks need to accord a higher priority to dealing with this scourge, which undermines development, economic and political stability and democratic institutions, and whose combat entails increasing economic costs for Governments as well as the irreparable loss of human lives,

Reaffirming that a comprehensive framework for international cooperation in drug control is provided by the existing drug conventions, the Declaration 1/ and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, 2/ the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action, 3/ the Declaration adopted by the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat 4/ and the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, and stressing the need for insistent efforts to implement them,

Recognizing the efforts of countries that produce narcotic drugs for scientific, medicinal and therapeutic uses to prevent the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and to maintain production at a level consistent with licit demand,

Acknowledging that there are links, under certain circumstances, between poverty and the increase in the illicit production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade requires appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative development activities in the affected areas of those countries,

Emphasizing the need for an analysis of transit routes used by drug traffickers, which are constantly changing and expanding to include a growing number of countries and regions in all parts of the world,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues,

Reaffirming the importance of the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted action for drug abuse control and commending the way in which it has carried out the functions entrusted to it,

Recognizing that the magnitude of the drug menace requires the formulation of new strategies, approaches, objectives and enhanced international cooperation

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1/ See Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

2/ Ibid., sect. B.

3/ Resolution S-17/2, annex.

4/ A/45/262, annex.

to address more effectively the international operations of those who deal in illegal traffic of drugs, arms and precursors and essential chemicals,

I

Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking

1. Reaffirms that the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking should not in any way justify violation of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations;

2. Calls upon all States to intensify their actions to promote effective cooperation in the efforts to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking, so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving this end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

II

International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking

1. Renews its commitment to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances, based on the principle of shared responsibility and taking into account experience gained;

2. Urges all States to ratify or accede to and implement all provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, 5/ as amended by the 1972 Protocol, 6/ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 7/ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988; 8/

3. Calls upon all States to adopt adequate national laws and regulations, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in compliance with those international instruments;

4. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to provide legal assistance to Member States that request it in

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5/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, No. 7515.

6/ Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

7/ Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 15956.

8/ United Nations publication Sales No. E.91.XI.6.

adjusting their national laws, policies and infrastructures to implement the international drug control conventions, as well as in training personnel responsible for applying the new laws;

5. Supports the focus on regional, subregional and national strategies for drug abuse control, particularly the master-plan approach, and urges the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to complement them with effective interregional strategies;

6. Encourages all countries to take action to prevent the illicit arms trade by which weapons are provided to drug traffickers;

7. Acknowledges that there are links between the illicit production, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the economic and social conditions in the affected countries and the differences and diversity of the problems in each country;

8. Calls upon the international community to provide increased economic and technical support to Governments that request it in support of programmes of alternative development that take fully into account the cultural traditions of peoples;

9. Takes note of the strong support expressed by members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the initiatives of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to establish a dialogue with multilateral development banks so that they might include a drug control dimension in lending and programming activities in interested and affected countries, and requests the Executive Director of the Programme to inform the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of further progress made in this area;

10. Stresses the need for effective action to prevent the diversion of precursors and essential chemicals, materials and equipment frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

11. Calls upon the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue providing assistance to Member States that request it in establishing or strengthening national drug detection laboratories;

12. Encourages the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue its laboratory research to develop environmentally safe methods for the eradication of illegal crops from which narcotics are obtained, in support of national drug control strategies and, in this context, to promote international quality standards for such methods and requests it to report on progress made to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-eight session;

13. Urges States to increase their efforts to eradicate illegal crops from which narcotics are obtained and to take full advantage of the current and future efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on environmentally safe eradication methods;

14. Commends the International Narcotics Control Board for its valuable work in monitoring production and distribution of narcotic drugs and

psychotropic substances so as to limit their use to medical and scientific purposes, and urges increased efforts to implement its mandate under article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, concerning the monitoring of the movement of precursors and essential chemicals;

15. Recommends to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that it consider, under an existing agenda item, at its thirty-eighth session, the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme entitled "The social and economic impact of drug abuse and control" and "Drugs and development" submitted to the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit for Social Development;

16. Welcomes the decision by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-seventh session, to request the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board and with the support of an ad hoc intergovernmental advisory group, to prepare an assessment of the issues covered in paragraphs 9 and 10 (a), (b), (c), (e), (i) and (j) of General Assembly resolution 48/12, as well as the issues of possible alternative funding mechanisms for United Nations drug control activities; 9/

17. Welcomes also the decision of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to examine at its thirty-eighth session the issues identified in paragraph 10 (d), (f), (g) and (h) of General Assembly resolution 48/12; 9/

18. Takes note with satisfaction of the decision by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to include in its agenda for its thirty-eighth session an item on reduction of illicit demand, in accordance with paragraph 10 (a) of resolution 48/12;

19. Invites the Economic and Social Council, while considering the issue of international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances at its high-level segment in 1995, to pay special attention to the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-eighth session, and particularly to the results of the deliberations regarding the implementation of paragraphs 9 and 10 of General Assembly resolution 48/12;

20. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in its report on illicit traffic in drugs, to analyse world-wide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means for improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

9/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 10 (E/1994/30), chap. XI, resolution 3 (XXXVII).

III

Global Programme of Action

1. Reaffirms the importance of the Global Programme of Action as a comprehensive framework for national, regional and international action to combat illicit production of, demand for and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

2. Calls upon States to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of Action, with a view to translating it into practical action for drug abuse control at the national, regional and international levels;

3. Also calls upon the relevant bodies of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with and assist States in their efforts to promote and implement the Global Programme of Action;

4. Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to facilitate reporting by Governments on implementation of the Global Programme of Action and encourages them to pursue these efforts so as to increase the number of Governments that respond;

5. Takes note of efforts being made by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other United Nations bodies to obtain reliable data on drug abuse and illicit trafficking, including the development of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System, and urges increased and timely reporting by Member States;

6. Invites the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to consider developing a mechanism to provide assistance to Member States that request it, in their efforts to establish national data collection mechanisms and to seek voluntary resources for this purpose;

IV

Implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control: action by agencies of the United Nations system

1. Supports the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control as a vital tool for the coordination and enhancement of drug abuse control activities within the United Nations system and requests that it be updated and reviewed on a biennial basis with a view to continuing efforts to improve its presentation and usefulness as a strategic tool of the United Nations on the drug problem;

2. Reaffirms the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to coordinate and provide effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities, in order to ensure

coherence of action within the Programme as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities across the United Nations system;

3. Endorses the agreed conclusions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 1994 coordination segment, regarding coordination by the United Nations Drug Control Programme of drug control related policies and activities of the United Nations system, including international financial institutions;

4. Urges that governing bodies of the United Nations agencies associated with the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control help ensure effective follow-up by including drug control on their agendas with a view to assessing the activities taken in accordance with the Plan and examining how the drug problem is addressed in relevant programmes;

5. Invites Member States to inform the Economic and Social Council at its 1995 high-level session on specific national efforts to engage the United Nations system and the multilateral development banks in addressing the drug problem;

V

United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. Welcomes the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandates within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, the Global Programme of Action and relevant consensus documents;

2. Urges all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in particular by increasing voluntary contributions to the Programme, to enable it to expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

3. Welcomes the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened thirty-sixth session on the programme budget of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in accordance with the mandate contained in section XVI, paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 46/185 C of 20 December 1991;

4. Notes with appreciation the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to comply with the approved format and methodology of the programme budget of the Fund, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the General Assembly, as well as the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and encourages the Executive Director to continue his efforts to improve the presentation and transparency of the budget;

5. Stresses the importance of the meetings of heads of national law enforcement agencies, and encourages them to consider ways to improve their

functioning and to strengthen their impact so as to enhance cooperation in the fight against drugs at the regional level;

VI

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General presented under the item entitled "International drug control"; 10/

2. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To include in his address to the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its 1995 session an evaluation on the progress made in attaining the objectives of the United Nations Decade Against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000, under the theme, "A global response to a global challenge" by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system;

(b) To present a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and to include recommendations and strategies for its further implementation;

(c) To provide in his annual report on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action information on the main obstacles to implementation and reporting by Member States, and to make recommendations in that regard.

10/ A/49/139, A/49/317, A/49/345 and A/49/369.